

Message Text

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45

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MMO-01 /017 W
----- 126510

P R 151720Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBSSY MOSCOW
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8750
AMCONGEN LENINGRAD

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FOR ICS, IEU, STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/EE; P&C/LENINGRAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJ: BICENTENNIAL SEMINARS

REF: MOSCOW 14370

1. NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT DAVID SHIPLER CALLED
EMBOFF SEPT 13 TO ASK ABOUT CANCELLED USIA-USA
INSTITUTE SEMINARS. SHIPLER SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH AN
UNIDENTIFIED PERSON BELIEVE IT IS HIS FATHER-IN-LAW IN
US WHO HAD BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN SEMINARS AND THEN
"UNINVITED". ACCORDING TO SHIPLER, THE EX-PARTICIPANT SAID
USIA HAD CALLED TO INFORM HIM THAT USA INSTITUTE REFUSED TO
COOPERATE WITH USIA AND THEREFORE SEMINARS WERE BEING CANCELLED
ENTIRELY.

2. EMBOFF INFORMED SHIPLER THAT WE HAD IN FACT APPROACHED
USA INSTITUTE FOR CONSIDERABLE FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE
AND THAT INSTITUTE HAD INDICATED THEIR INABILITY TO
COOPERATE TO EXTENT ORIGINALLY OUTLINED BY EMBASSY.
SHIPLER TOLD THAT WE NOW CONSIDERING OTHER WAYS TO
HOLD SEMINARS, POSSIBLY DIFFERENT FORMAT, BUT ENTIRE
IDEA DEFINITELY NOT BEING SCRUBBED.

3. CAO REASSURED SHIPLER SEPT 14 BY EXPLAINING THAT EFFORTS
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UNDERWAY FOR CO-SPONSORSHIP WITH USA-USSR INSTITUTE

FOR HIGH-QUALITY 3-DAY SEMINAR TO BE FOLLOWED BY LESS
FORMAL INTERCHANGE BETWEEN SOVIET AND AMERICAN SPECIALISTS.
HAVE PROMISED TO KEEP HIM INFORMED AND ASSUME HE WILL
SIT ON ANY POSSIBLE STORY EMANTING FROM MOSCOW UNTIL
FINAL, SCENE PLAYED AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED.

4. COMMENT: POTENTIAL PUBLICITY TO USA INSTITUTE
"REJECTION" OF SEMINARS COULD WELL LEAD TO RECONSIDERATION
OF HOUSEOF FRIENDSHIP'S TENTATIVE ACCEPTANCE OF
REVISED PROGRAM.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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